

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of reading an original placed on an original support and displaying it, comprising:

an image reading step of reading an image of
5 the original placed on the original support to generate an image signal;

a placement orientation detection step of detecting placement orientation of said original based on the image signal generated in said image
10 reading step;

an image signal rotation step of rotating, when the placement orientation of said original detected in said placement orientation detection step is different from a predetermined orientation, said
15 image signal to said predetermined orientation; and

a read image signal display step of displaying the read image signal in an orientation aligned with a predetermined orientation.

20 2. A method of displaying a read image signal according to claim 1, further comprising a display orientation setting step of setting said predetermined orientation.

25 3. A method of displaying a read image signal according to claim 1, further comprising a second image signal rotation step of rotating said image

signal by a predetermined angle irrespective of the placement orientation detected in said placement orientation detection step, and a second display orientation setting step of setting whether the image
5 is to be displayed in the orientation aligned with said predetermined orientation or the image that has been rotated by said second image signal rotation step is to be displayed.

10 4. A method of displaying a read image signal according to claim 3, wherein said second display orientation setting step can optionally set to display the image in an orientation as read in said image reading step without rotating the image.

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 5. A method of displaying a read image signal according to claim 3, wherein said second image signal rotation step further includes upon rotating the image signal by the predetermined angle,
20 correcting its inclination with respect to a vertical or horizontal direction.

 6. A method of displaying a read image signal according to claim 1, wherein in said image reading
25 step, a plurality of originals placed on the original support are read and the other steps are performed on an image signal obtained from each of the originals

individually.

7. A method of displaying a read image signal according to claim 6, wherein in said image signal
5 display step, image signals obtained from said plurality of originals are displayed in a thumbnail display form.

8. A method of displaying a read image signal
10 according to claim 1, wherein in said placement orientation detection step, the placement orientation is detected based on comparison of a vertical size and a horizontal size of the image signal.

15 9. A method of displaying a read image signal according to claim 1, wherein in said image reading step, an image area of the original placed on the original support is cut out to generate the image signal.

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10. A method of displaying a read image signal according to claim 9, wherein in said image reading step, an effective image area of the original in the form of a film placed on the original support is cut
25 out to generate the image signal.

11. A method of displaying image information,

wherein when image information of an original that is
different in its horizontal length and vertical
length placed on an original support is read by an
image reading apparatus and said read images are
5 displayed on a display apparatus in a thumbnail
display form, placement orientation of said original
placed on said original support is detected and said
image information is displayed in a state in which a
horizontal or vertical direction of the image
10 information of said original is aligned in a
predetermined orientation irrespective of the
detected placement orientation of said original.

12. A system for displaying image information,
15 wherein when image information of an original that is
different in its horizontal length and vertical
length placed on an original support is read by an
image reading apparatus and said read image is
displayed on a display apparatus in a thumbnail
20 display form, placement orientation of said original
placed on said original support is detected and said
image information is displayed in a state in which a
horizontal or vertical direction of the image
information of said original is aligned in a
25 predetermined orientation irrespective of the
detected placement orientation of said original.

13. A program for carrying out a method of displaying image information according to claim 11 under a control by a computer.

5 14. A computer-readable recording medium in which a program according to claim 13 is stored.